

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 03925 110042Z

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SS-14 USIA-04 FEA-01 AID-05 CEQ-01 COA-01 COME-00

EB-03 EPA-01 NSF-01 SCI-03 ACDA-10 AEC-05 AGR-03

DOT-00 FMC-01 INT-01 JUSE-00 OMB-01 CIEP-01 CEA-01

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SUBJ: LOS CONFERENCE--BOTSWANA

SPEAKING AT 8 OCT PM PLENARY IN GENERAL DEBATE,
BOTSWANA PERMREP MOGAMI SAID:

QTE

THE THIR DUNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE LAW OF THE SEA,
WHICH CONVENED IN CARACAS, VENEZUELA, THIS PAST SUMMER,
DEALT WITH ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE TO OUR COMMUNITY OF NATIONS.
IT IS NO SUPPRISE TO MY COUNTRY THAT THE INTERNATIONAL
COMMUNITY SHOULD ATTACH SUCH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE
DEVELOPMENT AND CODIFICATION OF THE LAW OF THE SEA.
THIS IS INDEED A WELCOME DEVELOPMENT.

THE CARACAS SESSION--AND INDEED ITS PREDECESSORS--WAS
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PAGE 02 USUN N 03925 110042Z

SIGNIFICANT IN MORE THAN ONE WAY. FIRST, IT HAD REPRESENTATION
FROM ALL SECTORS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. IN

THIS CONNEXION IT BROKE WITH PAST TRADITIONS. SECONDLY, FOR THE FIRST TIME THE CONFERENCE HAD A COMPREHENSIVE AGENDA. WE WERE HAPPY TO NOTE THAT MOST, IF NOT ALL, INTERESTES WERE REFLECTED IN IT.

MY COUNTRY IS LANDLOCKED. AND WHILE WE APPRECIATE THE RATIONALE FOR DEVISING A LAW WHICH WILL CREATE ORDER AND PROMOTE A RATIONAL MANAGEMENT AND EXPLOITATION OF THE RESOURCES OF THE SEA, MY COUNTRY, AS A LAND-LOCKED STATE, HAS SPECIFIC INTERESTS TO PROTECT AND PROMOTE. HENCE OUR EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION AT THE CARACAS SESSION AND OUR INTENTION TO CONTINUE TO DO SO AT FUTURE SESSIONS. IT IS VITAL TO MY COUNTRY THAT THE RIGHT OF FREE ACCESS OF LAND-LOCKED STATES TO AND FROM THE SEA SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED AND ENSHRINED IN ANY FUTURE TREATY ON THE LAW OF THE SEA. EQUALLY IMPORTANT IS A GUARANTEE IN ANY SUCH TREATY OF AN UNFETTERED TRANSIT OF GOODS AND PERSONS OF LAND-LOCKED STATES.

WE NATURALLY ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE QUESTION OF THE COMMON HERITAGE OF MANKIND. THEREFORE IT IS IMPORTANT TO US THAT THE INTERNATIONAL SEA-BED AREA BE A VIABLE ONE, AND NOT JUST A BARREN LEFTOVER. WE ALSO ATTACH SIGNIFICANCE TO THE TYPE OF INTERNATIONAL SEA-BED AUTHORITY WHICH WILL BE CREATED TO GOVERN THE AREA. IN OUR VIEW, THE AUTHORITY SHOULD NOT ONLY CONTROL AND MANAGE THE AREA AND ITS RESOURCES BUT SHOULD ALSO HAVE TITLE TO IT. CONSEQUENTLY, IT MUST BE VESTED WITH FULL POWERS TO FUNCTION EFFECTIVELY AS A TRUSTEE OF MANKIND AS A WHOLE. ABOVE ALL, WE ENVISAGE AN AUTHORITY WHICH WOULD ENGAGE DIRECTLY IN EXPLOITATION OF ITS RESOURCES.

I WOULD LIKE TO AFFIRM THAT MY COUNTRY SUPPORTS THE CREATION OF ECONOMIC ZONES BY COASTAL STATES. HOWEVER, IT IS THE VIEW OF MY COUNTRY THAT REGIONAL LAND-LOCKED STATES SHOULD PARTICIPATE ON AN EQUAL BASIS WITH REGIONAL COASTAL STATES IN THE EXPLOITATION OF THE MARINE RESOURCES OF SUCH ZONES. EQUALLY, THE QUESTION OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND THE DISSEMINATION OF THE RESULTS OF SUCH RESEARCH, IN BOTH THE ECONOMIC ZONE AND THE INTERNATIONAL SEA-BED AREA, IS IMPORTANT
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PAGE 03 USUN N 03925 110042Z

TO MY COUNTRM

MY DELEGATION WOULD ALSO URGE THAT THE INTERESTS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WHICH PRODUCE LAND-BASED MINERALS SIMILAR TO THOSE FOUND IN THE SEA-BED AREAS BE BORNE IN MIND. WE LOOK FORWARD TO PROMOTING THESE INTERESTS AT THE NEXT SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE ON THE LAW OF THE SEA. UNQTE
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